

A

1607/4739.

DESCRIPTION

OF THE

T O M B, &c.

WITH THE INSCRIPTIONS THEREON,

OF THE LATE

THOMAS SHUCKFORTH, GENT.

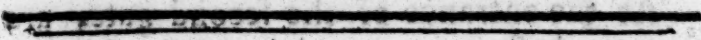
Who is interred in a select Inclosure of his own, at *Saham Tony*, near *Watton*, in the County of *Norfolk*; where the following are erected to his Memory, and are now published as a Testimony of Gratitude for the many charitable Donations, left to the Poor of that, and other neighbouring Parishes.

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A  
DESCRIPTION  
OF THE  
T O M B  
OF  
THOMAS SHUCKFORTH, GENT.

AT the entrance of the first gate is represented two Angels, one on the right hand, and the other on the left, under which are the following words :

*On the Left.*

“ And the Angel said fear not, for unto you is born this day a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.” *Luke ii. 10.*

*On the Right Hand.*

“ And there appeared an Angel unto him strengthening him, and being in an agony, his sweat was as it were great drops of blood.” *Luke xxii. 43.*

At



1607/4739.  
( 4 )

At the entrance of the second gate, are  
four tomb stones, on which are the follow-  
ing inscriptions, viz.

*C H R I S T compared to the  
APPLE-TREE ;*

*P O V E R T Y ,*

*R I C H E S ,*

*And DAY of JUDGMENT.*

THE





( 5 )

THE  
T O M B  
O F

THOMAS SHUCKFORTH, GENT.

*I look unto Christ, crucified for my  
Salvation.*

DEAR READER,

**D**OST thou, indeed believe that the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ was shed for thee, and that he came down from Heaven to save thee, and hath satisfied the wrath of God, for all thy sins, and that God raised him from the dead; if you thus believe, and embrace Christ for thy Lord, to enable thee to obey him, and trust in him alone, for life and salvation, it is impossible  
you

you should perish ; for God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son ; that whosoever believed in him, should not perish, but have everlasting life. Believe in him then, and love him, and shew the same by thy attendance, at his holy table ; and by thy love to believing christian brethren.

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If any man shall tell you, that you must do something yourself, as well as Jesus, to save your soul, and will offer scripture for what he says ; though you are not able to answer him yourself, yet let him not break thy hold on Christ alone for thy salvation, upon whom all thy sins are laid ; for the work of salvation is already wrought by him ; and therefore not to be now, as some by mistake conceive, from the Apostles words ; work out your salvation with fear and trembling.

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As Noah was preserved from the destruction which came upon the old world, by going into the ark ; so by the foot of faith, we walk into the ark of Christ Jesus ; who entertains all distressed conscious sinners, and malefactors, and become the captain of their salvation.

The

The intent of this inscription is to induce the reader, to love and glorify God, for his amazing redemption ; and not to love him through a slavish fear of damnation.

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This inscription was done in the year 1763, before the said Mr. *Shuckforth* died. He died April the 7th, 1781 ; in the 91st year of his age.

*The Headstone of the T O M B.*

Stay, reader, and say, some make a great noise about works ; but alas ! if all my works be ever so good, and my repentance be ever so true, yet if they cannot make satisfaction to God for my offences ; what can I do but rely upon the merits of his beloved Son, the blessed Jesus ; who with open arms is ready to receive me, and make intercession to his Father, for me, saying, thou knowest, Oh, my Father, what I have done and suffered for this poor sinner ! therefore, I will, that he shall be saved.

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This is over the figure of our Saviour crucified, on the foot-stone ;

*“ Behold the Man.”*



At his feet are the following lines :

“ Behold the despised and afflicted Jesus, the only begotten Son of the eternal God, who himself bore all thy sins in his own body upon the tree.”

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*CHRIST compared to the Apple Tree.*

“ As the apple-tree is amongst the trees of wood, so is my beloved amongst the sons : I sat down under his shadow with great delight, and his fruit was sweet to my taste.”  
*Cant. ii.*

Of all the metaphors made use of to set forth the excellency of Christ, none so sets him forth to the life as this of the apple-tree ; by a due and scriptural application of the same to the souls of poor weak believers ; the lowness of which sets forth his humility, and its spreading nature shelters a believer from the storms of sin and misery ; which storms when they rise, he presently runs to the apple-tree, and sits down under its shadow, comforting himself with these refreshing thoughts, the work of his humiliation ; in his nature is mine, the death which he suffered is mine, his intercession,

as

as the fruit of this apple-tree is mine, and he fulfilled perfect righteousness for me:— come then all ye melancholy dejected sinners, who are ready to die with despair, and are afraid of God's wrath, hasten under the shadow of this apple-tree, that it may still the bitter storms of your poor tempestuous souls.

*To the R E A D E R.*

(And he who desires to appear in the capacity of a scholar, must endeavour to understand this inexhaustible fund, why Christ is compared to the apple-tree, because he hath a root, which is hope; a heart, which is faith; a bark, which is charity; branches, which are spiritual virtues; green leaves, which are good words; and fruit, which are good works.)

POVERTY.

## P O V E R T Y.

A DAM, the Father of mankind, having the fatal curiosity to gratify his sensual appetites, by eating the forbidden fruit, brought upon his unhappy posterity, a deluge of sin and misery; but the blessed Jesus having pity upon us, left his Almighty Father, and his glorious state in Heaven, came down to save us from the fury of hell-fire; but alas! by his merciful descent to preserve us, he brought upon his own body a torment of misery and distress for he being ready to perish with hunger, no one would look upon him, or give him any relief; but on the contrary, the people beholding his poverty and mean condition, despised and abused him, and with his heart full of grief and weeping eyes, they inhumanly dragged him away, and without any pity or compassion nail'd him naked to a tree, on which he hung groaning and struggling, & crying unto God, my God! my God! why hast thou forsaken me? then sinking under the agonies of his soul, and the bitter pangs of death, with his precious blood  
trickling



trickling down his sacred face, from his thorny wounds, he meekly bowed his holy head and gave up the ghost : Therefore let poor christians consider Christ's poverty and sufferings in this world, and not be dismay'd with such hardships that shall here befall them, but endure the same with christian patience, until the time cometh, when they shall be dissolved, and be with Christ in paradise : but such of the rich, who fare delicately every day, and indulge the carnal cravings of their filthy carcases, before they can enter into that Blessed Mansion, they must expect to be for an unknown time sated down with fire, to cleanse them from the vile impurities of *their polluted souls*.

RICHES.

## R I C H E S.

**I**N the Reign of King Henry the Eighth *Mr. Gresham*, a merchant of London, as he was sailing from Palermo, in Sicily, wherein was at that time one *Antonio*, surnamed the *Rich*; being cross'd by contrary winds, was constrained to anchor under a certain island, where was a burning mountain, which he with eight of the sailors ascended, and approaching as near the vent as they dare, heard amongst other noises a voice cry aloud, dispatch! dispatch! the Rich Antonio is coming; and the mountain presently vomited out fire, but desiring to know more of this matter, they returned to Palermo, and enquiring for Antonio, found he died about that very instant, when that voice was heard by them, and which the sailors made oath of before the King; therefore, let men consider the danger of riches, and with what scorn the wealthy look down upon their inferiors; but when death comes the scene may change, and the despised and distressed may mount up to joy beyond the skies, whilst haughty insulting Souls are scorching in the hot abode of  
Rich

Rich Antonio: Then let not the rich glory in their riches, for it is a fearful thing to think how few of them are saved, (especially venal villains, and traitors to their country) their affections being so fixed upon worldly things, as to have no taste at all for such as are heavenly; therefore lull themselves for a time in the soft slumber of earthly ease and pleasure, then suddenly sink into Hades and are seen no more.

DAY



## DAY of JUDGMENT.

**S**UCH as shall appear at the tremendous day of judgment in the glorious robe of Christ's righteousness, shall hear these joyful words pronounced by Christ himself; come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; but such as dare to appear in rotten rags of their own righteousness, will be ashamed and confounded, and sent away with a sad sound of a dreadful sentence: but what can be the motive of a man's sticking so close to his own righteousness, which cannot save him, and rejecting the righteousness of Christ, which can? it is because Satan is resolved, if possible, to have his soul; therefore he infuseth this haughty and impious notion into his mind, that it is a shame for man to be beholding to the righteousness of another man, when his own righteousness appears so brilliant, and shines with so much splendour; but how will the soul of this self righteous man fare, when it has left his body, until the resurrection? it will perhaps with  
other

other unhappy souls be hurried about by spiteful and malicious spirits, dæmons or devils, in some dark and dismal region of the air ; besides the perpetual plague of the tormenting thoughts of the cursed cause of its ruin.

*F I N I S.*





